

the Blastoff

Official Newsletter of
The Rotary Club of Space Center
P O Box 58862, Houston, Texas 77058
Meetings Monday 11:45 at Bay Oaks Country Club
Clear Lake City Ph. 281.488.7888
Chartered 1964
February 2, 2009

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



A message from Pres. Mike

February is "World Understanding" Month, and how better than to start the month with a presentation from the International Youth Exchange and an update on the work going on in Carbonara, Mexico. It is ironic that we start our month with the International Youth Exchange program and just last week the Rotary Youth Exchange and the Rotary family in general received the very sad news that a group of exchange students were gunned down outside a Youth night club in Portland, Oregon. The outcome was, two young ladies, one from the U.S. and another from Peru, were dead and seven others were hospitalized with gun shot wounds. The gun man 27 years old, shot himself and later died in the Hospital. Rotary has established a "Charitable Trust for Youth Exchange" to assist the families of the dead young ladies and the ones that are recovering in the hospital. Our club is contributing with a check to the Trust and will also send cards signed by our members to the families and injured students. No matter how much we think about it, we can not understand how a senseless and malicious act such as this can be committed. Our thoughts and prayers go to the victims and their families. We pray that the loss of these two young ladies will not be in vain and that it will only energize us all in supporting what they found to be a wonderful way to make new friends, and understand other cultures, which is the Youth Exchange Program. Going back to our February programs, we are going to have a busy month. On the 9th we will have the Scholarship Awards presentation to high school seniors based on the Drug Awareness Essay. Two seniors will be awarded scholarships. On Tuesday the 10th we will first have our second planning meeting for the Springoree at 5:30 pm and then our Rotary Fellowship night at Tommy's Seafood at 6:30. Don't forget to set your calendars for February 13, "Valentine's day roses to nursing homes residents". There is also need for help in getting those roses prepared. Monday, February the 16th, President's Day, NO MEETING! Tuesday the 17th, Board meeting at Bay Oaks CC at 7am. Yes we will still have our regular Board meeting on the 3rd Tuesday. On Monday the 23rd, the program will be the presentation of six Scholastic Achievement based Scholarships to high school seniors, and to finish the month, on Tuesday the 24th we will have our Rotary Fellowship at Abe's Cajun Market. Have a great Rotary February!

Yours in Rotary,
Mike



Rotary International
President 2008-2009



Dong Kurn Lee



Rotary District 5890
Governor 2008-2009
Rhonda Kennedy



Chris Schneider
Alvin, Seabrook, Space Center
District Assistant Governor

Past District Governors
From SCRC

Dr. Floyd D. Boze
1981-1982



Billy Weseman
1993-1994



Suzi Howe
2006-2007

Service Above Self

Programs —

Kippy Caraway, Chair 2008-2009

TODAY . . Youth Exchange Student Speaks to the Club and also there will be a presentation about the work going on in Carbonara, Mexico, including a club presentation of a \$1,000 donation.

Feb 9th . . . Drug Awareness Essay Scholarship Awards presentation

Feb 16th Holiday — no meeting

Feb 23rd Academic Achievement Scholarships Awards presentation

Mar 2nd SCR Endowment Foundation

Mar 9th TBD

Mar 16th TBD

Mar 23rd TBD

Apr .6rh TBD

Apr 13th TBD

Apr 20th TBD

Apr 27th TBD

May 4th

May 25th Holiday — no meeting

June 1st

Bring a Guest!!

Say Happy Birthday to —

Peter Wuenschel	February 3rd
Floyd Boze	February 7th
John W. Tenini	February 8th
Don Kirchoff	February 10th
Laura Hale	February 12th
Tony Bloomfield	February 12th
Bob Swint	February 15th
Bill Geissler	February 16th
David Taylor	February 16th
Steve Owens	February 22nd
Christopher Gregg	February 25th



Important & Informative Websites

Rotary International

www.RI.org

Rotary District 5890

www.RotaryDistrict5890.org

Space Center Rotary Club

www.SpaceCenterRotary.org

Meeting Notes February 1st —

- Steve Owen, Chair, gave an update on Springoree.
- Jon McKinne, PE, made new membership picture rosters available. Thanks to Vic Maria for keeping the pressure on this project.
- The program was Mid-Year Club Assembly. Presentations were limited to service projects and committees. You can get all the info from the club's website. See the last two pages of this newsletter for additional information.

FOUR WAYS & MORE

1. **Be Generous.** Do more than your share and volunteer in your community.
2. **Be expressive.** Smile at other, and show your appreciation for them.
3. **Be responsive.** Promptly answer messages, and send thank-you notes.
4. **Be inclusive.** Invite that newcomer to lunch, and draw in the shy person.
5. **Be considerate.** Arrive on time, and let people talk without interrupting them.

**YOU MAY VIEW
& READ THE
CURRENT & SOME PRIOR
ISSUES OF *THE BLASTOFF*
ON THE CLUB
WEBSITE**

MARGINALLY USEFUL INFORMATION

Taken from *The Bathroom Trivia Digest* by Russ Edwards & Jack Kriesmer, ©Red-Letter Press, Inc.

- Compared to other high school and college activities, in terms of catastrophic spinal and head injuries, the most dangerous is cheerleading.
- What happened to the first 6 “ups”?
- There are 3,000 species of mosquitoes. There are over 11,000 species of ants.
- In 1990, cleaning crews working on the Statue of Liberty removed 600 pounds of chewing gum. Did they recycle?
- Square bathtubs don't have rings.
- For every human on earth, there are about 200 million insects.
- Elvis Presley made his Las Vegas debut at the Frontier Hotel in 1956. He didn't go over well with the middle-aged crowd and was fired a week later.
- Is there another word for *synonym*?
- A study done by the *Journal of American Medical Association* found that 32% of studies are inaccurate.
- There's no period after the “Dr” in Dr Pepper.
- For chess players — There are 318,979,564,000 possible combinations of the first four moves. There are 20 possible opening moves.

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do—

1. **Is it the TRUTH?**
2. **Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
3. **Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
4. **Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

SCRC SOCIALS

Feb 10th.....**Tommy's Seafood**, 103 W. Bay Area Blvd.
Feb 24th ...**Abe's Cajun Mkt**, 1080 Clear Lake City Blvd.
Mar 17th **Gilhooleys**, 229 9th St., San Leon
[AN IRISH CELEBRATION!](#)
Mar 31st**Italian Café**, 4322 NASA Plwy.

Contact Roger Donnelly.

Ridonnely@aol.com

The Rotary Motto:

Service Above Self

SPRINGOREE MEETING

Tuesday Feb. 10th @ 5:30 p.m.

Texas Citizens Bank
17041 El Camino Real, Suite 104
Steve Owens, Chr.

SteveO@TexasCitizensBank.com

713.948.5714

MAKEUP OPPORTUNITIES:

Pearland

Tuesday @ noon

Golfcrest Country Club 2501 Country Club Drive

LaPorte

Tuesday @ 12:10 p.m.

St John Episcopal Church Broadway @ Ave. G

Pasadena South

Wednesday @ noon

Baywood Country Club 5500 Genoa Red Bluff

Friendswood

Wednesday @ noon

Village on the Park Retirement Center 400 E. Parkwood

Seabrook

Thursday @ 8:00 a.m.

Lakewood Yacht Club 2425 NASA Parkway

League City

Thursday @ noon

Estaban's Fiesta Shack 131 League Street

Pasadena

Friday @ noon

First United Methodist Church 1062 Fairmont Pkwy

Make up @ an E-club

http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdf/s/eclub_list.pdf

SPONSORS OF SHRIMPOREE 2008

[\$1,000 unless otherwise noted]

- Amoco Federal Credit Union
- Art Oswald — AOVCO
- Bastion Technologies (Mike Hernandez (\$2,500))
- Belinda K. Skloss, LLC
- Ben Bridge Jewelers (Travis Vermeer)
- Billy R. Smith, Attorney at Law
- Clear Lake Lexus (Joey Dupuis, Gen. Mgr.)
- Delia Stephens, Attorney at Law
- DRDA (Olive Murphy-Riker, CPA)
- Gay & Reitz, Attorneys at Law (Becky Reitz)
- Gregg & Gregg, P. C., Attorneys at Law (\$2,500)
- Gurry Mechanical, LP (Ken Gurry)
- Hopping Eye Associates (Vissett Sun)
- Hydrocarbon Resource Recovery (Scott Rainey) (\$2,500)
- JSC Federal Credit Union (Mike Brown) (\$2,500)
- J. Pamela Photography (Pam Culpepper)
- Kirchoff Peterson Co. (Don Kirchoff) (\$2,500)
- L. D. Bowles Associates (Lamar Bowles) (\$2,500)
- Las Colinas Custom Interiors (Rae De Castro)
- Lexus of Clear Lake — Joey Dupuis (\$2,500)
- Earl & Terrilee Maudlin (\$10,000)
- Maui Wowi (Shelley Smith)
- Merrill Lynch (Jerry & Bill Smith)
- MRI Technologies (Tim Kropp)
- Prosperity Bank (Mark Humphrey)
- Space Center Automotive (Jerrold Dewease)
- State Farm Insurance— Johnny R. White, Agent
- Texas Citizens Bank (Mike Cornett)
- Texas Roadhouse (Tony & Sharon Bloomfield \$2,500)
- Texas Wealth Management (Mike Hesse)
- The Citizen (Mary Alys Cherry)
- Gene & Donna Tromblee (\$2,500)
- University of Houston — Clear Lake Campus
- Waldron & Schneider, Attorneys (Marc Schneider)
- WalMart Super Center, Baytown

EVENTS CALENDAR

Club Board of Directors3rdTue @ 7 a.m.
 RNASA Committee 3rd Thur @ 5:30 p.m.
 Endowment Foundation Bd... 2nd Tue @ 7 a.m.
 Rotary Foundation Comm ... last Wed @ 7 a.m.
 Membership Committee ... 2nd Mon @ 1:15 p.m.
District 5890 Conference, Lake Charles, LA
 Apr 30 — May 2, 2009
Rotary Space Award Dinner May 8, 2009
Springoree May 14th
100th RI Convention
Birmingham, England June 21 — 24, 2009

Officers & Directors 2008-2009

President Mike Hernandez
 President Elect Jon McKinnie
 Secretary John Wilson
 Treasurer Marilyn Musial
 Sargent at Arms Mike Dennard
 Immediate Past President. Dick Gregg, III

Directors

Club Administration Mark Humphrey
 Public Relations John Nugent
 Membership Bill Geissler
 Fundraising David Coney
 Community Service A Belinda Skloss
 Community Service B Dick Hergert
 International Service A Mike Cornett
 International Service B Dick Kidder
 Vocational Service Rae DeCastro

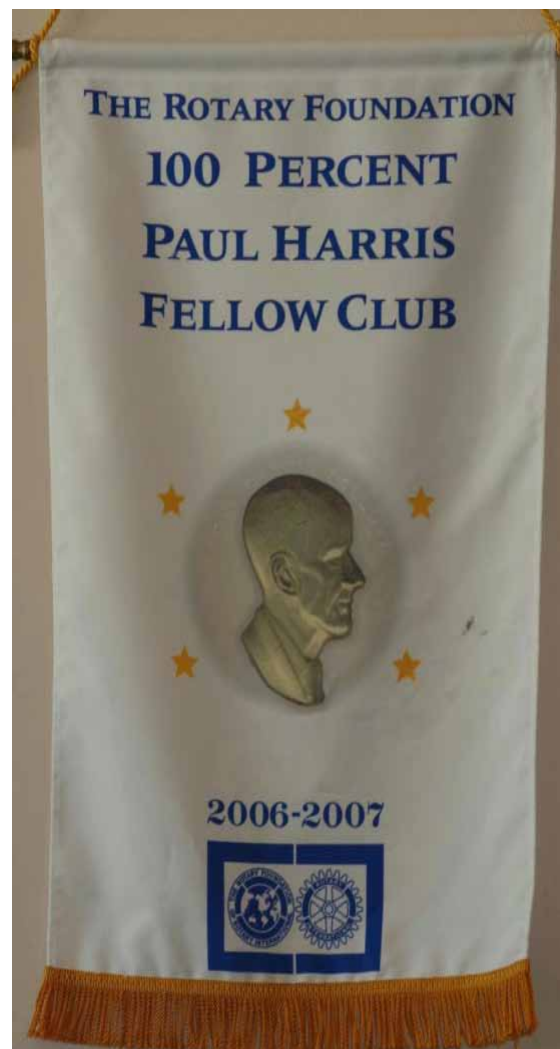
Committees & Chairs

Programs Kippy Caraway
 Directory & Website Jon McKinnie
 Club History Jerrold DeWease
 Constitution & Bylaws Billy Smith
 Memorial Laura Hale
 Fellowships Roger Donnelly
 Blastoff Editor Billy Smith
 Photographer Bob Mitchell
 Public Information Mary Alys Cherry
 Golf Dick Kidder
 Attendance Bill Geissler
 Classification Scott Rainey
 Member Recruitment/Retention Jon McKinnie
 Grants Stan Glanski
 Shrimporee Jon McKinnie
 Springoree Steve Owens
 Sponsors Scott Rainey
 Interact David Coney
 Rotaract Ted Cummings
 Youth Activities Marc Schneider
 Senior Citizens Steve Waldner
 Health & Safety Jennifer Keller
 Scholarships Belinda Skloss
 Rotary Foundation David Coney
 SCRC Endowment Foundation Bob Wren
 Ambassadorial Scholars ???
 GSE Activities Bill Geissler
 International Youth Exchange Dick Meyer
 World Health Foundation Dick Kidder
 Excellence in Education David Coney
 Safety/Law Enforcement Phil Sandlin
 Space Center Rotary Club Endowment Foundation ... Bob Wren, Pres.
 Rotary National Award for Space Achievement Foundation
 Rodolfo Gonzalez, Pres.

THE THEME FOR

FEBRUARY IS

WORLD UNDERSTANDING



WalMart Super Center
 Baytown, Al Stock, Mgr.

**AMOCO FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

**AOVOCO
Art Oswald**

**BASTION
TECHNOLOGIES
Mike Hernandez**

**BELINDA K.
SKLOSS
LLC**

ATTENTION SCRC MEMBERS

The following membership classifications are empty & it is important to the vitality of strength of the club that they be filled ASAP. You know someone who will make a good Rotarian.

- **Physician**
- **Beautician**
- **Retail Sales**
- **Home Improvement Center**
- **Long Term Care**
- **Mortician/Funeral Director**
- **Hospital Administration**
- **Residential Construction**
- **Commercial Construction**
-
- **..... & many others.**

POLIO PLUS

Unfortunately, there are many of us in Rotary that remember the "crutches, leg braces and iron lungs" necessary for polio victims in the 1950s. For the younger generations, here is an opportunity to take a look back in time and experience the ravages of polio in America. A show titled The Polio Crusade, part of The American Experience series will air at 8 PM tonight (Monday 2/2/09) on PBS - Channel 8 in Houston. It will show the good, the bad and the ugly sides of the effort to eradicate Polio in the United States in the 1950's. After viewing this show, you can better understand the necessity to complete our mission to eliminate Polio worldwide.

You can blame or thank Vic Maria for this one.

A cabbie picks up a Nun. She gets into the cab, and notices that the very handsome cab driver won't stop staring at her. She asks him why he is staring. He replies: "I have a question to ask, but I don't want to offend you." She answers, "My son, you cannot offend me. When you're as old as I am and have been a nun as long as I have, you get a chance to see and hear just about everything. I'm sure that there's nothing you could say or ask that I would find offensive." "Well, I've always had a fantasy to have a nun kiss me." She responds, "Well, let's see what we can do about that: #1, you have to be single and #2, you must be Catholic." The cab driver is very excited and says, "Yes, I'm single and Catholic!" "OK" the nun says. "Pull into the next alley." The nun fulfills his fantasy with a kiss that would make a hooker blush. But when they get back on the road, the cab driver starts crying. "My dear child," said the nun, "Why are you crying?" "Forgive me but I've sinned. I lied and I must confess; I'm married and I'm Jewish." The nun says, "That's OK. My name is Kevin and I'm going to a Halloween party."

**BEN BRIDGE
JEWELERS
Travis Vermeer**

**BILLY R. SMITH
Attorney at Law
Board Certified
Estate Planning**

**DELIA STEPHENS
Attorney at Law**

**DRDA
Olive Murphy-
Riker, CPA**

GAY & REITZ
Attorneys at Law

GREGG & GREGG,
P.C.
Attorneys at Law

GURRY
MECHANICAL,
L.P.
Ken Gurry

HOPPING EYE
ASSOCIATES
Vissett Sun

Space Center Rotary Water Treatment Project

Problem: Provide drinking water and job training for a Community

Location: Carbonera, Mexico



Solution: Establish a bottled water charitable business at the High School-
Establish a Rotary Interact Club at the High School to operate the business-
Construct the building, drill a water well, install the process equipment Teach
the High School students to operate a business, providing training & options
to becoming a fisherman. Provide college scholarships from the profits of the
business Create a community resource for safe water and vocational training
for the children.

HYDROCARBON
RESOURCE
RECOVERY
Scott Rainey

JSC FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION
Mike Brown

J. PAMELA
PHOTOGRAPHY
Pam Culpepper

KIRCHOFF
PETERSON CO.
Don Kirchoff

**LAS COLINAS
CUSTOM
INTERIORS**
Rae DeCastro

**LEXUS OF
CLEAR LAKE**
Joey Dupuis

**EARL
&
TERRILEE
MAUDLIN**

MAUI WOWI
Shelley Smith

DISTRICT 5890 RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are now on sale. The prize is an exciting \$5,000 voucher to travel anywhere in the world and a Rotarian gets \$100 credit with RI for a Paul Harris Sustaining Membership. See DAVID CONEY for more details.

ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION ST. PATRICK'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST

When?.....March 7th

**Where?Nassau Bay
Baptist Church**

Time?7:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

**Menu: Pancakes, scrambled
eggs, sausage, biscuits, cream
gravy, fruit, coffee, juice &
FUN.**

**Price?\$7.50
Children under age 7, eat free.**

**Get your tickets from Flapjack
Jack and join the Fellowship.**

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

MERRILL LYNCH
Jerry & Bill
Smith

**MRI
TECHNOLOGIES**
Tim Kropp

**PROSPERITY
BANK**
Mark Humphrey

**SPACE CENTER
AUTOMOTIVE**
Jerrold Dewease

STATE FARM INSURANCE Johnny R. White Agent	TEXAS CITIZENS BANK Mike Cornett	TEXAS WEALTH MANAGEMENT Mike Hesse	GENE & DONNA TROMBLEE
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Rotary Resources: *click your way into the Rotary World*

<i>The Rotarian</i>	The official magazine of Rotary International.	www.rotary.org/rotarian
<i>Regional Magazines</i>	There are more than 30 regional Rotary magazines, which are published in 20 languages, including Thai, Bulgarian and even British English.	www.rotary.org/regionalmagazines
<i>Weekly Update</i>	Subscribe to receive a weekly news roundup from RI.	www.rotary.org/getupdate
<i>The Rotarian Video Magazine</i>	This DVD series showcases extraordinary projects and people from around the world.	www.rotary.org/rvm
<i>Rotary Images</i>	This is a photo library of projects, programs and Rotarians.	www.rotary.org/rotaryimages
<i>RI Youtube Channel</i>	Within minutes, you can embed an RI video on your website.	www.youtube.com/rotaryinternational
<i>Interactive</i>	Experience Rotary in a new way through this online newsletter.	www.rotary.org/interactive
<i>Reconnections</i>	Read about Rotary Foundation programs alumni.	www.rotary.org/reconnections
<i>Newsletters</i>	View a listing of all the newsletters available from RI.	www.rotary.org/newsletters
<i>Humanity in Motion</i>	TV, radio, print, Internet and billboard public service announcements focus on Rotary volunteer efforts that address critical humanitarian issues.	www.rotary.org/humanityinmotion
<i>RI Visual Identity Guide</i>	Learn the best practices for using Rotary's emblem & marks.	www.rotary.org/visualidentityguide

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS	WALDRON & SCHNEIDER Attorneys at Law	THE CITIZEN Mary Alys Cherry	TEXAS ROADHOUSE Tony & Sharon Bloomfield
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SPACE CENTER ROTARY
General Mid-Year Accomplishments
Club Assembly Meeting 1/26/2009
KEEP DREAMS REAL
President: M. A. Hernandez Jr.

Support Primary Beneficiaries within our community:

- Donated equipment to establish the Clear Lake Library Early Child Literacy Center
- Obtained District Simplified Grant to supplement our budgeted money and are now in the process of buying the equipment to donate to the MD Anderson Children Cancer Hospital

Create awareness and have monthly Club programs related to the Rotary theme.

- Rotary Theme Banner at Club Meetings
- Theme Explanation
- Weekly presentations about RI Foundation and Membership
- Programs related to month's theme

Have interesting and meaningful Club programs:

- Speakers have presented very meaningful and pertinent programs dealing with current issues
- Promote development and participation of Interact and Rotaract clubs:

- Are on our way to start a group of each within the next month

Maintain members informed of club activities and financial conditions:

- Weekly Committee presentations at Club meetings
- Information available in web page
- Presentations at Club Assemblies
- Weekly Blastoff with club and Rotary related information
- Weekly "President's Remarks" in Blastoff
- Summary of Board meetings' minutes and financials in Blastoff

Increase membership and maintain present members:

- A very aggressive plan of recruiting and retention of members has been developed
- Goal is to increase the membership by at least 11 members by March 30, 2009. Presently we have had 7 new members but have lost 5 members, with a net of 2

Promote membership participation in club's committees and fund raising:
activities such as the Shrimporee and Springoree

- Committees continue to make weekly presentations about their activities and needs, for the purpose to inform and recruit new members

Incorporate the club directory with pictures into our web page:

- Web page contains directory with members' pictures

Inform District of Club activities and Accomplishments:

- Have delivered to District monthly packages with reports of clubs activities and accomplishments, including pictures, copy of Blastoffs, meeting minutes, financial reports, etc
- Have had 3 articles of our projects and activities published in the District newsletter and the Shrimporee was in the District web page

Develop an understanding of Grant writing process and take advantage of available Grant money:

- The Grant committee presented two District Simplified Grant requests and obtained the approval of one in the amount of \$2,000

Conduct a successful Shrimporee:

- The 35th club's Shrimporee was a success not only from the point of view of the funds raised but also the fact that the theme and children activities were focused on child health and safety which is this year's main focus of Rotary International

Increase community awareness of Rotary's contributions:

- Several publications have appear every month in the Citizen and other local news publications. The Shrimporee received broad publicity.

Maintain fiscal control of club's funds:

- Current National financial situation has impacted some of the club's investments, resulting in loss of previous gains.
- Change in meal plan for club meetings prevented to continue the weekly loss of money

Support and promote Club Fellowship activities and participation:

- The club have had a number family fellowship activities including evening and afternoon gatherings, Christmas party, pancake breakfast, golf outings and the Shrimporee

Meet or exceed the requirements for the Club to achieve the Rotary International "Presidential Citation" award:

- We are on our way with the following accomplishments either progressing or already reached. We also have a number of other projects which will contribute to meeting the award requirements that we have not started yet

MEMBERSHIP

- Increase membership by at least one by March 31st. (District suggested number is 11)
- We are working towards having 10% or more of the members to bring a new member
- We have helped maintain members in Rotary by referring moving members to another Rotary Club
- We are reporting new members to Rotary in a monthly bases

CLUB SERVICE

- We are ensuring that every member has been invited to participate in a club activity or committee
- We have a committee to organize fellowship projects and activities for Rotarian and their families

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

- We present all new members with a copy of the 4 way test
- We have two vocational service activities

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- We are in the process of conducting a children immunization project that reduces child mortality
- We are in the process of sponsoring a Rotaract and an Interact clubs

We donated the child literacy center to the Clear Lake Library

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- We are working towards Every Rotarian, Every Year goal of \$100 or more per club member to The RI Foundation
- Working towards a contribution to Polio Plus of \$20 or more per club member
- We are participating in three international water purification projects
- We have sponsored this year two exchange students
- We are involved with other Rotary clubs in several international projects including the Clinic in Guerrero, Mexico

Maintain a club environment that promotes participation, a sense of accomplishment and friendship among the members:

- We have been encouraging member participation in all of the different aspects of the club; have been making an effort to keep membership informed and to ask for suggestions and opinions; and provide activities for members to better know each other



Pictures from the January 26th meeting: Laura Godwin displays wine to be given to a lucky winner; Laura and Bob Mitchell. Bob is our photographer. Who is taking this picture? Scott Rainey says "You need to propose a new member and fill an empty classification. The Rev. Carlos is in the background. Mike Dennard offered a bottle of wine to anyone who could produce a picture of a grandparent, a US dollar coin or something else I have forgotten. Don't know if anyone was the winner.

Can you do this with your hand?

